

Prayer of the Church - Third Sunday of Easter - 19 April 2026

Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

God of all compassion, Your Spirit opens the Holy Scriptures to the hearts of Your people. Enlighten us by the resurrection light that never fades, that our hearts may burn in faith toward You. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Blessed Lord, You have established Your Church so that Your promise of eternal life might be delivered to us, to our children and to all who are far off — to everyone whom the Lord our God calls to Himself. Grant us faithful pastors to proclaim repentance and forgiveness through Word and Sacrament. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, grant that Your Word may be the foundation of every Christian home; that husbands and wives may be united in faith and hope; and that children may hear and be nurtured in this Word by faithful parents. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, stifle the powers of darkness and end the reign of war, violence and terror. Give leaders who will seek peace and work for the common good. Instill in them a love of righteousness, and guide them in the pursuit of justice for all. Bless our president; the Congress of the United States; our governor; all state and local officials; all medical and emergency workers; and all members of the armed forces. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O God, You have not forgotten us in our afflictions or abandoned us in our weakness. Deliver the sick and suffering according to Your will, and give comfort to the dying, especially to those who have requested our prayers [*including _____*]. Guard us against despair, and grant us patience in days of trouble as we await Your perfect healing. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful Lord, Your compassion is made known to us through Your Son's breaking of the bread. Open our hearts and mouths to receive forgiveness in the body and blood of Christ, who suffered for us and has entered into His glory. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, through the life, death and resurrection of Your Son, You have delivered our souls from death, our eyes from tears and our feet from stumbling. Comfort all who mourn with this truth, that they may not grieve as others do who have no such hope. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

These things and whatever else You know that we need, kind Father, grant us for the sake of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. And God's people said: **Amen.**